Application No.: 10/049,192

Art Unit: 1648

REMARKS

Claims 40-56, 77, 78, 92, 94-115, 120, and 146 are pending in this application. Claim 92 stands rejected. No claims stand objected to. Claims 40-56, 77, and 78 are withdrawn, as they are drawn to non-elected groups/species. The Applicants herein cancel Claim 92 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 92 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner contends that it is not clear what the phrase "a single variant or a substantially single variant" means in these claims. The Applicants herein cancel Claim 92 without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering this claim rejection moot.

Claim 92 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly containing subject matter that was not described in the specification in a way that is commensurate in scope of the invention. The Applicants herein cancel Claim 92 without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering this claim rejection moot. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of Claim 92 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102/103

Claim 92 stands rejected as allegedly anticipated by Hoshino, *et al.* (US2002/0058043), under 35 U.S.C. § 102, or in the alternative, as allegedly obvious over Hoshino, *et al.*, under 35 U.S.C. § 103. The Applicants herein cancel Claim 92 without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering this claim rejection moot. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 92 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, or in the alternative, under § 103.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the Office Action, and believe that they have fully responded to the Office Action. The Applicants reserve the right to prosecute, in one or more patent applications, the cancelled claim, the claims as originally filed, and any other claim that is supported by the instant specification. In view of the foregoing claim amendment, the Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any remaining objections or concerns, she may contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the below telephone number to resolve such issues and advance this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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